

**UTAH CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION
ON
CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEMILITARIZATION**

**Thursday, September 18, 2003
Division of Environmental Quality
6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

Those in attendance:

**Debbie Kim
David Ostler
John Bennett
Mike Keene
Geoff Silcox
Gene White
Beverly White**

Members absent:

**Dennis Downs
Rosemary Holt
Jane Bowman
Sid Hullinger
Dan Bauer**

1. Welcome/Minutes – Deborah Kim

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Debbie Kim. The information in the July minutes was deemed acceptable, however they were not approved due to lack of a quorum.

2. Synopsis of CSEPP Exercise, September 10, 2003 – Kari Sagers, TCEM

This is the annual exercise which coordinates emergency preparedness and emergency management with activities at the Depot. Over 300 volunteers participated. Kari discussed the scenario and reported on the success of this exercise. This exercise encompasses a variety of disasters to prepare the community for an emergency. Media covered the exercise as well. In the CSEPP program there is a rating system, and TCEM scored a capable rating in all of the response activities. Minor improvements will be made, and it shows that teamwork is essential to succeeding in this type of environment.

No questions.

3. Deseret Chemical Depot Update – Colonel Cooper. A handout was provided.

There were nine leakers since the last CAC meeting. This is not a significant or unexpected number. Generally, leaking occurs when there is melting and freezing. The ultrasound testing was completed on ten Lewisite ton containers. Five liters of VX agent were pulled and will be shipped to ECBE in support of the Newport program. VX Hydrolysate samples were pulled for characterization as well. The current operations include training operators on the Lewisite process and procedures. Neutralization is scheduled to start in January 2004. The 4.2

inch mortars have begun to be reconfigured in support of TOCDF and the MPF (Metals Parts Furnace) was started in preparation for trial burns of secondary waste in November. Deliveries started to TOCDF in support of Chemical Demilitarization Activities. Heightened security measures are still in place.

Q-GS-Is the Lewisite process working correctly?

A-I am trying to drive the process forward. We are getting support on that. There are bench scale processes in progress.

Q-So, there is not adequate destruction?

A-That is right, we are at required levels for Lewisite but in the case of byproducts, CBRA, we are not.

Right now, we treat byproducts as hazardous waste and put them under secondary containment.

Q-MK – How are the VX samples shipped?

Everything that is sent back is treated following very specific rules. For security purposes there are armed escorts the entire way back east.

No further questions.

4. Program Status – Mr. Dale Ormond. A handout was provided.

Mr. Ormond gave an update on the status of each Chemical Disposal Programs. JACADS is scheduled for final closure on November 5, 2003. Last personnel are scheduled to depart the island by December 17, 2003. Demolition/closure process is scheduled 6 weeks ahead of schedule. Anniston – Destroyed .3% of stockpile. Aberdeen – Destroyed 4.5% of stockpile. They are struggling with some technical problems and are supposed to start up again in October.

Q-What happens to the metal at JACADS?

A-All the metal that was salvageable was put on a barge and sent to a metal salvage facility, others were put through the MPF.

Q-What about the igloo contamination?

A-Samples of the igloos found PCB dust off of rockets, risk assessment showed there were no pathways in or out; fish and wildlife will take over the island.

Within the next two years four of the baseline incineration facilities will be online, plus the neutralization facilities. There will be a lot of information coming out and it will be very interesting to see how all the information will be coordinated. This will be a technical challenge, to see if there is feedback from other CAC's. We will have a great opportunity to provide lessons learned to other communities. It would benefit the Army for the CAC's to work together to distribute this information.

5. Plant Status/Restart Update – Stephen Frankiewicz. A handout was provided.

The recordable injury rate for TOCDF is 2.2, down from 3.3 a year ago. Our goal is to get this rate below 2. No detectable agent was released from the stacks, and no level 3 events occurred. As of Sept. 14 TOCDF had processed 2,896 M55 VX rockets, 3,805 M56 VX warheads, 63,148 lbs. VX agent and 606,767 lbs. of SDS. A planned maintenance outage is in process and expected to be completed on September 30. The Operational Readiness Review (ORR) was completed August 7 for the 155M projectiles, and the ton container ORR was complete September 12. We are scheduled to begin processing October 1. We are estimating to be finished with rockets and projos by the end of October; spray tanks and mines by April. We are estimated to finish the VX campaign in the fall of '04. In August '03 EG & G conducted a random confidential survey to measure the efforts and effectiveness of the safety culture since the beginning of the VX campaign. Over 200 employees participated. In comparing the results to the Army survey held in '02, this survey indicated a significant improvement in the plant's safety culture and morale. 86% of the employees feel they can express safety concerns to their immediate supervisor, 64% feel they can express safety concerns to plant management easily and 91% said they do not feel pressure to continue working even when they feel conditions are unsafe. 89% of the employees surveyed said they do not feel pressure to continue working when they have questions about the work process or the assigned task. 76% feel TOCDF has a healthy safety culture and 91% of the employees surveyed feel that overall TOCDF is a good place to work.

Q-GS-PCB Problem, EPA levels

A-Jon Majestic-Deputy Gen Manager-DFS Trial burn went well except for PCB. The requirement for meeting destruction (99.9999) could not be met by one significant digit. We had a problem with every run that was made, we searched for every possible cause. There were two possible conclusions: the analysis was somehow compromised or the glassware was not appropriate. Several requests were made to the EPA and we expect to get direction from EPA to perform a series of mini burns to establish what the sufficiency of our burn is.

6. DSHW Update – Marty Gray – Results from the public comment period ending August 25, 2003.

Dennis Downs was not present, he sends regrets. We received a Class 2 permit modification for monitoring in the MPF airlock. We have looked at it very hard and put it out for public comment. We did receive public comment, and one comment was to elevate this to a class 3 permit, which means that in addition to the 60 day comment period we will draft a final version of this modification and put it out for public comment for 45 additional days. We are planning to do this; a request for temporary authorization for the MPF with conditions in the modifications has been submitted. We have approved temporary authorization and we have agreed to a test plan that the committee will use to gather some data regarding the burner capabilities through the first part of the temporary authorization, and then use that info to figure out the final positions. On the permit renewal, public comment ended Aug 25, and we are in the process of

addressing comments right now. During the trial burn status, it is allowed to operate at 50%, unless they submit to us some critical data to look at, and if it looks good we authorize them to operate at 75%. That is where we are now.

Q-The feed rate, what is the permitted feed rate?

A-The trial burn plan allows them to feed up to 24-30 rockets per hour.

CAMDS - We received a permit application for Lewisite neutralization system on July 1 and it was put out for 60-day public comment; there are still pieces missing and we are doing the same thing that we did with the monitoring of the MPF, we will draft a permit and put it out for public comment for another 45 days. The MPF will be starting a trial burn on Nov 3, which was just approved this week; one provision is to take a look at the monitoring before they feed agent into the furnace.

7. Citizens Concerns – No questions.

Meeting adjourned.